soared high. It relates to the Budget and it is for the Finance Minister to ...(*Interruptions*).

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : मंत्री महोदय जरा जवाब तो दें इस बात का कि क्या मेकेनिज्म एडाप्ट किया है इन्होंने प्राइस कंट्रोल करने के लिए ?

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Let the Prime Miinster respond. It is a unanimous view of the House. Let the Prime Minister say something. Let the Prime Minister say what is happening. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: We want full day discussion on this. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, let the Prime Minister say something...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Because the Prime Minister is not responding on the issue of price rise, in protest, we walk out...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: The Prime Minister is not even prepared to intervene and say something. We walk out. (*Interruptions*)

(*At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. I am allowing a calling attention on this subject...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: When, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Foreign technology agreements

*65. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a follow-up to the liberalised Industrial Policy Government have decided to accord automatic approval of foreign technology agreements in respect of certain industries;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether this approval has been accorded to industries of synthetics, diamonds, welding electrodes, food processing etc; if not, the reasons therfor and by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) According to the Statement on Industrial Policy tabled in both the Houses of Parliament on July 24, 1991, and the Press Note No. 10 (1991 Series) dated August 14, 1991, issued in pursuance thereof by the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development), the facility of automatic permission for foreign technology agreements is available, subject to the following criteria:—

(a) Automatic permision will be given for foreign technology agreements in high priority industries (Annexure III to the Statement on Industrial Policy) upto a lumpsum payment of Rs. 1 crore, 5 per cent royalty for domestic sales and 8 percent for exports, subject to total payments of 8 per cent of sales over a 10 year period from date of agreement or 7 years from commencement of production.

(b) In respect of industries other than those in Annxure III to the Statement on Industiral Policy, automatic permission will be given subject to the same guidelines as above if no free foreign exchange is required for any payments.

All other proposals will need specific approval under the general procedures in force.

The facility of automatic permission will thus be available to all industries, including synthetic, diamonds, welding, electrodes and food processing industries as long as the above criteria is fulfilled.

Indigenous Newsprint for small and medium newspapers

*66. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Newspapers Editor's Conference has urged Government to set apart the indigenous newsprint for small and medium newspapers as these newspapers cannot afford to buy imported newsprint;

(b) whether due to devaluation of rupee, it has now become costlier for small and medium newspapers to buy imported newsprint; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The current prices of standard newsprint are given in the Statement (*See* below)

(c) The small and medium newspapers with an annual entitlement upto 200 MT have the option to take indigenous or imported Newsprint either in part or in full.

Statement

The prices of standard newsprint

I. *Indigenous Newsprint*

	(Rupees per MT)	
(i) Nepa Ltd.	14,800/-	(52GSM)
(ii) Mysore Paper Mills	16,905/-	(58/49 GSM)
(iii) Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.	16,255/-	(48/49 GSM)
(iv) Tamilnadu Newsprint and Paper Ltd.	17,270/-	(49 GSM)
II. *Imported Newsprint*		
(i) Imported other than Bangladesh	16,000/-+800 as surcharge	(49 GSM)
(ii) Bangladesh	14,800/-+800 as surcharge	(49 GSM)

Uranium deposits in Meghalaya

*67. **SHRI G. G. SWELL:**
DR. NARREDY THULASI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large deposits of uranium have been discovered at Domiasiat, West Khasi Hills in Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the grade of the uranium and its estimated quantity;

(c) since when exploration in the area has statred;

(d) the area that will be covered in mining of uranium;

(e) whether there are indications of more uranium in the adjacent areas; if so, whether any preliminary